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 The New York Times _____
 The Washington Times _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The Christian Science Monitor _____
 New York Daily News _____
 USA Today _____
 The Chicago Tribune _____
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bush possibly tied to hostage-release talks

I have been disturbed by the growing evidence that in October 1980, the Reagan campaign may have negotiated with the Iranians to delay the release of the hostages held in Tehran until after the November election. I am even more disturbed and dismayed by the failure of the media to take this issue seriously.

There appears now to be a compelling piece of evidence. In sworn testimony on Sept. 23, 1988, former CIA operative Richard J. Brenneke said that he and George Bush were at meetings with the Iranians on Oct. 19, 1980, in Paris. If true, this would amount to nothing less than the most heinous subversion of the election process in our nation's history.

It would be unforgivable to have prolonged the agony of the hostages, their families and the nation for personal political gain. This question should be thoroughly examined before the election - not after. If Bush is elected and this matter is found to be true, it would be obviously immediate grounds for impeachment. The country should be spared that wrenching ex-

perience, not to mention the terrifying prospect of "President Quayle."

It is my understanding that Bush has been unwilling to verify that he was in the US on Oct. 19, 1980. Why have the media not pressed Bush on where he was? Any vice-presidential candidate would have hundreds, if not thousands, of witnesses as to his whereabouts on any given day in the last month of a heated campaign.

Dozens of reporters should be quite aware of where Bush was on each day of October 1980. I have heard of no reporter indicating that he saw Bush on the date in question. It would be highly suspicious if this was a day that Bush says he chose to be in seclusion with only a few advisers as witnesses to his movements.

It is the press's responsibility to follow up on this vital issue and present the facts fully to the public. And it must do so before it is too late for the voters to be fully informed in the exercise of their responsibility on Nov. 8.

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